

Aiken County

1. What does educational achievement mean to our community?

- Improved quality of life – present and future impacting forces.
- Improved quality of life
- Economic – industry skilled labor force
- Arts
- Pride in community
- Achievement pride
- 100 percent graduation rate
- More opportunity for his/her learning
- In Aiken we have a dichotomy – it is important to some and not others – social/economic
- Prepared individuals and flexible/multi-task
- Achieve but not employed social/racial Not scholastic

2. What is needed in our community so that ALL students can succeed? (Strengths & Challenges)

- Needed early childhood programs, home/school connections
- Quality educators, facilities, and resources
- Technology
- Parental desire/support
- Perceived to be a value by the community
- Step up with leadership to make education number one priority.
- More and definitive incentives
- Time on task – extended school year
- Top load funds to younger generation
- Life skills
- Teacher/home life
- Attendance – Parental Accountability

Strengths:

- Business and community support

Challenges:

- Define success
- : Improve summer programs involvement
- \$
- Collaborations to increase parental involvement in schools
- Lofty goals for better life and education
- We need political will

3. What programs, partnerships etc. work well in your community to support all students succeeding?

- Partnership w/ seniors, rotary, summer programs, PEP
- Partnerships with universities and tech schools
- Public education partners
- Contributions from business
- Shadowing – School to work
- Volunteers

- Church support
- Recreation
- Public Safety

4. What can we do in our homes and neighborhoods to strengthen our schools?

- Reconnect the disconnect. Educate people – show direct correlation for how it impacts them personally. Accountability
- Support being vocal
- Provide information and access to parent and community resources
- High expectation of being on time
- Promote family education
- Communicate about Adult education
- Parental accountability
- Stricter discipline at school
- Resources for early childhood community centers